

March 2006

News from the
Southeast Region Civil Air Patrol
Col John Tilton, Commander

ReCAP

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CAP Receives Doolittle Award



Over 1,400 AFA members and supporters met in Orlando Friday, February 3 at the Air Force Association's 22nd Air Warfare Symposium. The formal gala is a celebration hosted by AFA's Central Florida Chapter, supporting aerospace education at local, state, and national levels. In addition, the event honored the accomplishments in "search and rescue, and the men and women who place their lives on the line for others."

According to Master of Ceremonies John T. (Tim) Brock, president of the Central Florida AFA Chapter, it was a night to "shine our spotlight on those special people who serve the search and rescue mission for our nation. To recognize the accomplishments of these marvelous people...."

The Central Florida Chapter recognized four organizations as

Jimmy Doolittle Fellows of the Aerospace Education Foundation: Civil Air Patrol, Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC), the 347th Rescue Wing stationed at Moody AFB, GA, and the 920th Rescue Wing, stationed at Patrick AFB, FL.

General Ronald Keys, Commander of the Air Combat Command and Co-Host of the AFA Symposium, presented the award to Civil Air Patrol for the out-

standing contributions CAP has made in search and rescue.

Maj Gen Pineda received the award on behalf of the members. "I was honored to accept the Jimmy Doolittle

Award," said Pineda. "Whether we are one team searching for a downed aircraft or hundreds of volunteers tirelessly working for weeks on the Gulf Coast, the outstanding manner in which you, our volunteers, conduct our search and rescue missions displays true teamwork and the pursuit of excellence I believe is unmatched in any volunteer organization."

by 1st Lt Kelly Green Sharkey



Doolittle Award Presented

Maj Gen Pineda receives the Doolittle Award from Gen Keys, commander, Air Combat Command from Langley AFB, VA



Stand for the Colors

AFA members and supporters stand for the presentation of the Colors by the Air Force ROTC Color Guard from the University of Central Florida



Representatives are All Smiles

Lt Col Gary Owen and CAP Director Don Rowland is all smiles after CAP is presented the Award



Event is Quite the Success

Former SER Commander Col Matthew Sharkey enjoys the celebration with Tommy Harrison, Chairman of this year's Gala



Commander's Comments

Passing the Torch

The twenty first Olympic Winter Games just ended in Torino Italy with Team USA earning 25 medals. It was exciting to watch the athletes compete... almost as much fun as watching my wife vicariously jump Cohen's double axel in the seat next to me or land or "help" Ohno skate across the finish line. All in all it was a spectacular event that epitomizes hard work, determination, and team spirit.

Team CAP isn't working for physical bronze, silver, or gold medals, but its members are working together in many disciplines: Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs, and Search and Rescue. In my book, you're all gold medal winners, but I am biased. I've had the privilege of working with you as the SER Commander and have benefited from the wisdom you've shared and the examples your lives have projected.

I cannot say enough about the joy I've received from commanding some of the best, most dedicated volunteers in the nation. Our efforts, successes, and learning opportunities as a team bring me great pride. I have a stack full of emails and letters from people all over who have expressed admiration for what we've done. You are the best and I couldn't have asked for better teammates, colleagues, and friends.

Because I am passionate about Civil Air Patrol and its members it was especially difficult to come to the decision to "pass the torch" to another. Those of you who read my resignation letter know family, school, and work are just some of the reasons I've stepped down. Huge scheduling difficulties is another. In fact, I thought that since Kelly and I had to postpone our honeymoon until May to "fit it in" was an indicator we might want to step back (for a time) until things settle down a bit. Rest assured, I will continue to be an active member, ardent supporter, and vocal proponent of CAP's missions and members. We're still a team!

That said, I pass the torch of SER to the very capable Col John Tilton, former Alabama Wing CC. He's a great guy and will do a fine job leading our team, the Southeast Region.

Mark Your Calendar

2-4 March	Winter National Board, DC
11-12 March	Professional Development Weekend, FLWG
25-26 March	SER Cadet Competition, Ft. Benning
7-9 April	GAWG Conference, Jeckyll Island
28-30 April	MSWG Conference, Gulf Port
28-30 April	ALWG Conference, Huntsville
5-7 May	FLWG Conference, Orlando

Quote of the month:

"The way you remember the past depends upon your hope for the future. And if what you see in your future has no hope, it has no potential, then you view the past that brought you to here as not very good."

—Story Musgrave
Six time Space Shuttle Astronaut

Happy Birthday Staff Members

Jean DuBois, 3/8
Pete Norris, 3/14
Pat Faunt, 3/17
Ernie Bilotto, 3/18
Ron Greene, 3/19
Walt Bevan, 3/27
Hugh Stewart, 3/27

March Service Anniversaries

Ed Keesler 5 Years
Bob Pettigrew 22 Years



Local heroes visit squadron to talk about fire safety, careers

By Capt Michelle Becker

St. Petersburg Cadet Squadron had some guests visit its Monday night meeting Feb. 13 to discuss a "hot" topic: fire.

Three firemen from the St. Petersburg Fire Department came to the meeting on a big red engine to talk to the cadets about fire safety and careers in firefighting. Cadet Senior Airman Kevin Rafferty took the initiative to set up the visit.

"I knew it would be something that all the cadets would like," he said. "We have invited them out before and everybody loved hearing their stories and checking out the truck and all of the equipment."

Lt John Rizzo of the fire department talked about the many aspects of firefighting. He discussed day-to-day life of firefighters and how they save others and keep themselves safe. They demonstrated the proper wear and usage of the uniform and equipment by performing what is called a "two-and-a-half minute drill" for the

cadets. In the drill, the firefighter must don all of his clothing and equipment in that time-frame. The cadets were impressed, as fire-

fighter Joshua Payne completed the drill in one minute and 37 seconds. What's even more impressive is that when all the gear is on, it adds up to about 50 to 75 pounds of equipment.

"My favorite part of the night was learning about their suits and gear, and that they have to do all that in under two-and-a-half minutes," said C/A1C Joseph Massey. "It made me

realize they're pretty safe."

Lt Rizzo talked about what it takes to become a firefighter as well as the benefits of being one.

"There are definitely good benefits," Rizzo said. "But we're not here for the money—it sounds corny, but we're here to help people."

After the briefing, and after listening to a real-time call come in on the radio, everybody went out to the fire engine for a walk-



C/SrA Robert Barber and C/A1C Sean Patterson marvel at the size of the hose and nozzle.



Fireman Joshua Payne performs the two-and-a-half minute drill

around tour.

This part of the evening was very interactive for the cadets. The firefighters pointed out nearly every button, lever, and nozzle and explained the use of them all. The cadets were full of good questions and the firefighters were more than happy to answer every one.

Cadet Senior Airman Sara Abramo said, "I loved learning about the parts of the truck. I had no idea there were so many different sizes of hoses and nozzles."

The evening was a success, with the cadets taking home some valuable knowledge and a newfound respect for some community heroes.

Capt Becker is the St. Petersburg Cadet Squadron PAO and SER Newsletter Assistant Editor

GAWG Conference Includes Lt Gen Kehoe

By Capt Tonya Boylan

The Georgia Wing Conference is scheduled for April 7-8, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort, Jekyll Island, GA.

The conference theme is "Professionalism in Volunteer Service"

Lt Gen Nicholas B. Kehoe,

USAF (Ret.) Chairman, CAP Board of Governors and President, Medal of Honor Society will be the Banquet Keynote Speaker.

Activities are being planned for cadets as well as seniors.

Because we are having the conference at a hotel rather than on a military base, you must make your

hotel reservations yourself. Currently, the reservation block (\$72.00 per night rate) includes 25 rooms for Thursday, 6 April, 50 rooms for Friday, 7 April and 50 rooms for Saturday, 8 April.



FL Squadron Awards and Promotes

By Maj. Frank Swain Jr.

Marion County Composite Squadron held a Promotion and Awards Ceremony on January 31, 2006 at their weekly meeting. Deputy Group 2 Commander Major John Edsall presided over the event.

Heather Osborne was promoted to C/SMSgt.; Isaiah Tamblingson was promoted to C/2nd Lt and was presented his Mitchell Award; Cadet of the Quarter Award was presented to C/1st Lt Timothy Hines; Phase 1 Cadet of the Year Award was presented to C/SSgt Dillon Clancy; Phase 3 Cadet of the Year Award was presented to C/1st Lt Timothy Hines.

The Air Force Association Cadet of the Year Award was presented to C/1st Lt Timothy Hines by Major Holloway, a member of the AFA.

Unable to attend and receive her Mitchell Award and Phase 2 Cadet of the Year Award was C/2nd Lt Katie Harvey. It will be presented at a later date.

Below, C/1st Lt Timothy Hines receives his award from Maj Holloway



Memorandum for all SER Members

FROM: Commander, SER
SUBJECT: Southeast Region Vision

I want to take this opportunity to address everyone and express my thanks to all who serve at the Region, Wing, and Squadron levels. Your efforts are the reason this is the best Region in Civil Air Patrol.

My vision for the Southeast Region will be to focus its energies in support of our Wings, other Regions, and the entire Civil Air Patrol. It is as follows:

The Southeast Region staff will concentrate its efforts in the areas of Standardization and Mutual support between the SER Wings.

The Wings of the Southeast Region will continue to build on their relationship of mutual respect, trust, and support.

The Region staff will accomplish this by providing guidance, facilitating information sharing, and conducting limited Region exercises.

We as Wings can do almost anything. As a Region, we can do almost everything.

John E. Tilton
Commander
Southeast Region



Col. John Tilton

Cadet Programs

By Maj Vickie Meyer

Plans for the SER Cadet Competition at Ft. Benning on March 25-26 are right on target. Thanks to significant work from Col Jerry Angley and **Governale**, we have close to a dozen Air Force personnel as volunteers in addition to two admin workers. The local squadron has agreed to host some of the events, and each Wing is sending a minimum of two volunteers to assist.

Team members remember there is still one conference call remaining



before the big event on **March 21** at 8 pm EST. All Wing DCPs and Deputy DCPs are asked to participate. Please contact me at vmeyer@ser.cap.gov for the specific phone number and extension number.

Ft. Benning will be an excellent facility for this year's event. We'll have the 2,000-seat auditorium available, in addition to the large gymnasium for the volleyball competition. Even the barracks are considered top notch.

Maj Ivan Acosta has done extensive work on coordination and execution of the myriad activities planned. The work of all our team members is greatly appreciated. And to all the cadets competing: Good luck and have a wonderful time!

Moody Squadron Places First in Drill Team Competition

By C/1st Lt Michael A. Van Doren II

The Moody AFB Composite Squadron placed first in the Georgia Wing Drill Team Competition. The two-day competition, held Feb. 25-26, was hosted by the AFROTC detachment at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. A total of 44 squadrons throughout Georgia were eligible to compete.

Although titled a drill competition, the event tested the cadets in a variety of ways, and Moody's cadets worked hard to earn this recognition.

Beginning four months ago the cadets began meeting every Saturday for six hours to prepare for the mile run, volleyball and a knowledge bowl on aerospace history. In addition they prepared for current events, a written exam covering leadership, the Civil Air Patrol organization and history, drill and ceremony, and to practice their standard, innovative, and color guard routines.

Moody's squadron fielded a 12-person drill team, commanded by C/1st Lt Michael Van Doren II, and a four-person color guard, commanded by C/SrA Heather Bickerton. The color guard members had double-duty, as they competed as part of the drill team and had additional color guard events.

"The cold weather hurt our



GAWG Drill Team Competition Winners from the Moody AFB Composite Squadron

L-R, Back row C/2nd Lt Kyle J. Armstrong, C/CMSgt Douglas F. White (male Fleet Foot Award winner), C/2nd Lt Logan M. Battermann, C/Amn Adam C. Rubero, C/Amn Allen D. Daniels, C/Amn Anthony B. Stone; Center Row C/TSgt Julie Driskell, C/1st Lt Michael A. Van Doren II (Cadet Commander/Drill Team Commander), C/SrA Heather N. Bickerton (Color Guard Commander/Drill Team Member), C/A1C Amanda B. Harris (Color Guard Member/Drill Team Member), C/AB Christopher Dalton Page, C/TSgt Isaac D. Mondesir (Drill Team Member/Color Guard Member); Front Row C/MSgt Joshua N. Tsonos, C/SSgt Jason P. Farrington, C/Amn Curtis C. Harris, C/SSgt Tommy T. Hammond (Drill Team Member/Color Guard Member), C/MSgt Mark T. Wallace (Drill Team Member/Color Guard Alternate).

Photo by 2nd Lt Denise Battermann-Dickinson

times on the mile run, but our team still managed to pull through," said C/CMSgt Doug White, who was awarded the Fleet Foot award for being the cadet with the fastest mile time in the competition, posting a time of 5 minutes and 56 seconds. Although this was the first time this unit has competed, the cadets were not discouraged. Cadet MSgt Isaac Mondesir said "It was a good experience to see how our unit

compares to others from around the state."

The Moody cadets are eager to continue demonstrating excellence in other aspects of the Civil Air Patrol program. Thanks to the support of Moody AFB, families of cadets, and the dedication of each member, this unit now holds the title of the 2006 Georgia Wing Drill Team Champions.

C/1st Lt Van Doren is a member of the Moody AFB Composite Squadron

ALWG Conference in April

Plan to attend the Alabama Wing Conference, Friday and Saturday, April 28-29, 2006, in Huntsville, AL. Details for the conference are on the wing website. Be sure to check www.alwg.cap.gov.

The group Homeland will be at the banquet and provide entertainment. A block of rooms, at a very com-

petitive rate, has been reserved at the Sheraton Four Points Inn at the Huntsville Airport.

The price will be excellent, the quality of the information provided will be top notch and current, and the opportunity to mix, meet, and learn will be superb. Plan to attend!

Instruction, Construction, and Fly

By 1st Lt Bruce S. Sage

The Coral Springs Cadet Squadron, FLWG, is using model airplanes in their aerospace education program.

Four months ago, the Aerospace Education Team consisting of Lt Col George

Erkes, Capt Norman Kaplan, and Mr. Alex Acuti kicked-off the 2005-06 RC Model Airplane "Instruction, Construction and Fly" program at the Coral Springs Charter School.

Every Wednesday night from 8:30 to 9:00, students studied three primary phases to the program: Ground School, featuring the theory and physics of flight; Construction, where cadet teams built a scale model of the Cessna 172; and the Fly portion, consisting of membership in the AMA and several field trips to the Condor Club's air strip in Palm Beach County.

The model aircraft is 8 feet long with a wingspan just under 6 feet. The completed plane was completed and at the Feb. 14, 2006 meeting, the class tested the engine and electronics for flight readiness. The final stage will be a field trip back to the Palm Beach site with the airplane for actual flight testing and solo flights. During this portion, the airplane will undergo several tests similar to that which a commercial airplane manufacturer would conduct. Each potential pilot will initiate the same pre-flight checks that a real

pilot or student pilot performs in flight school.

Since all of the students have been checked out on other aircraft during their previous field trips, they will each conduct take-offs and landings as well as level flight with an instructor on a dual control console. Upon completion of instructor supervised flight, each

student will conduct at least one solo flight.

This class marks a CAP milestone. In the absence of a Nationally sanctioned program, we have taken the initiative to get our program off the ground and prepare for more challenges and classes.

As a result of the overwhelming success of this program, Mr. Acuti has decided to join SER-FL-016 as a Senior Member in the Aerospace Education Program.

1st Lt Sage is the Commander, Coral Springs Cadet Squadron



Cadet Ruben Zapata and Guest Instructor Mr. Alex Acuti

Region Medical

By Lt Col Patricia Faunt

Be My Valentine and Save Your Heart

February has come and gone, but even though Heart Month Awareness has passed, there is information you need to know while "hearts" are still on your mind. I know you can't change family history but you can change your lifestyle choices by adopting the following strategies.

Stop smoking and don't use tobacco products. The smoke from tobacco contains more than 4,800 chemicals and many of these can damage your heart and blood vessels. Also nicotine in cigarette smoke makes your heart work harder by constricting blood vessels and increasing your heart rate and blood pressure.

Exercise – Regularly participating in moderately vigorous exercise can reduce your risk of fatal heart disease by nearly a quarter. It does this by increasing blood flow

to your heart and strengthening your heart's contractions so that your heart pumps more blood with less effort.

Eat a heart healthy diet; try adding more fruits and vegetables. Limit your intake of certain fats especially saturated fat and trans fat. Include Omega 3 fatty acids like those found in fish. These may decrease your risk of heart attack, protect against irregular heartbeats and lower blood pressure.

Watch your weight. As you get older you have a tendency to put on weight and this weight is mostly fatty tissue. This excess weight can lead to conditions that increase your chances of heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes.

Yearly health screening can tell you what your numbers are and where you need to take action. Make sure you have your blood pressure taken, blood tests for cholesterol, diabetes, etc.

Follow a heart healthy lifestyle. Be aware and take care.

Take care and be aware.

Lt Col Faunt is the Southeast Region Nurse Officer



Col Oakman Assumes Command of ALWG

Former Alabama Wing Commander Col John Tilton was promoted to Commander of the South East Region by National Commander Maj Gen Antonio Pineda during the Alabama Wing Commanders Call Feb. 11.

Alabama Wing Vice Commander Lt Col Michael Oakman was promoted to the rank of Colonel by Maj Gen Antonio Pineda. Immediately following, Col Oakman accepted command of the Alabama Wing from Maj Gen Pineda.

Pictured at Right: Col John Tilton, Col Russ Hodgkins, USAF, Maj Gen Pineda, Col Mike Oakman, and Don Rowland, National Director



Group 8 Puts the “Fun” in Fundraising

By Capt Michelle Becker

Give cadets an opportunity to break out their tents, web belts, and military flashlights, and they’ll show up. Well, that’s partly the reason 24 cadets and 24 senior members from Group 8 attended a combined bivouac/fundraiser on Feb. 24–25 at Highlander Park in Dunedin, FL.

The other reason was to raise money for the activities they enjoy doing in their squadrons.

Saturday the 25th was the day of the annual Bowser Games, which is a county-wide dog show sponsored by the Humane Society of Pinellas County, FL. The Group 8 Civil Air Patrol participants were in charge of the parking detail for the event, as well as assisting the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Department with security for the approximately 1,800 people that attended the event.

By devoting their time and effort to this great community event, CAP members earned a total of \$915, which was divided among the participating squadrons according to the number of volunteer hours each squadron supplied.

Group 8 decided to turn the evening before into a bivouac for the cadets on the park grounds. This portion of the weekend was especially enjoyed by the cadets who always love a chance to pitch their tents and “rough it” with pizza and donuts. There was an inspection of each cadet’s campsite conducted by cadet staff, and cadets participated in CQ patrol during the night to help insure a secure campground.

Captain Terry Power, Group 8 Deputy Commander, said everyone was a little disappointed in the amount of money raised. “The \$915 is down about \$400 from the amount we made at this event last year due to construction activity at the park

which compromised the number of parking spots that we had,” he said. “But the cadets really enjoyed themselves, as did the senior members in attendance.”

Captain Power adds with a laugh, “For the next event we have there, we’ll hopefully remember to tell the city to turn off

the sprinklers.” The park’s automatic sprinklers came on at 2 a.m. and gave a couple of unfortunate over-nighters a surprise shower!

For a future fundraiser Group 8 is looking

forward to possibly getting involved with the Dunedin Octoberfest, where it earned over \$3,500 two years ago.

Capt Becker is the Assistant Editor, SER Newsletter



Cadet Staff Sergeant Kevin Rafferty inspects the campsite of C/Amn1 Joseph Massey and Sean Patterson during the bivouac portion of the Group 8 fundraiser. Photo by Capt Michelle Becker

Georgia members have event that has Gone to the Dogs

By Capt Hayden Collins

The Bartow-Etawah Composite Squadron in Georgia trained in a three day operation in late January, known as "Dog Daze," supported by the Department of Natural Resources. This operation provided qualification for Air Teams and Ground Teams to work with Search Dogs. This operation folded into a three-day field operation for Ground Team Search and Rescue training. Seven Missions were planned and held, including the K-9 SAR.

Thirty three Ground Team Members were

retrained, while five Air Team Members were retrained.

It was not as cold as it was last year; however the feeling was in the air. The **large** Advance Party functioned well.

The site was set up for training prior to 8:00 p.m. The Main Body arrived Saturday morning, along with Air Support.

For the most part, the operations and missions were smooth with few oversights. A few of us were just a little rusty, cold or both. Air Support arrived just prior to lunch.

The K-9 Training was an *eye opener*. All missions included trained handlers and dogs. It was great having them because they just don't seem to miss.

Day operations Saturday extended into a

review in the evening and lights out at 9:00 p.m.



Ground teams scour the landscape



Members "prevent and treat" injuries as part of their training

The ground teams learned a lot about ground-to-air communication and redirections.

The weekend provided insight to the current team status for training and leadership. Equipment-wise, we broke in some new cold weather gear, as well as provided some new learning experiences for the rookies.

Dog Daze took place thanks to

In and Around the Region



Cadet members from the Okeechobee 453rd Composite Squadron enjoyed a tour of the Ft. Pierce airport tower

While at the Cadet Advisory Council, February 25, participants saw the ARTSI radar system and actual traffic in pattern



Group 8 Cadets join MacDill AFB Honor Guard at Governor's Day Lunch
C/Col Timothy Medeiros and C/Maj Adam Vogt pose with Florida Governor Jeb Bush and members of the MacDill AFB Honor Guard team



Lt Col Matt Ferris was awarded the Jacksonville Citizen Corps 2005 Volunteer of the Year

The award was presented at the First Annual Citizen Corps Awards

Larry Babcock, Susan Ardes with Bredettes (her 4-year-old Shepherd from Czechoslovakia), and Allen Padgett with Aspen (his 2 1/2-year-old Golden Retriever from Chattanooga) who instructed and then joined cadets and senior members in a mock Search and Rescue Mission.

Some of the information we learned was that:

- A dog and handler can replace a 20-person ground team; however, in conjunction with the ground team, a bigger area can be covered.
- The dogs search for scents. Some work with their noses to the ground, some work with their



Allen Padgett and his Golden Retriever friend, and fellow searcher, Aspen

heads slightly raised, and some work as air-scent dogs since scents travel with the wind.

- When working with a dog and handler, always stay behind them, and always follow the handler's lead. The dogs are trained to alert the handler when someone is found.
- Always ask before you pet one of the dogs. Sometimes dogs get hurt. If an animal is injured, tell the handler
- Carbon Monoxide

from car exhaust can invalidate a dog's ability to work scents for 24 hours.

- Sometimes, people are found who are not being searched for, but have been recently lost.

• Handlers reward and praise their dogs, even if the person they are searching for has been found dead. It is important for the training of the dog.

- Handlers must trust the dogs!
- 85% of the handlers are females.

- It takes thousands of hours to train the dog, and it's easier to teach hounds or Shepherds.
- Have this order of priorities: Look after yourself, your team, the dog, lost



Ground teams listen to vital instruction before heading out

persons.

- **Be well trained and work as a team.**

The best prevention is know-how!

Capt Collins is the Field Operations Officer for the Bartow-Etawah Composite Squadron

News and Events of Note to the SER



Cadet in the '60s

Jim Phillips takes an orientation flight in August 1963. Capt Phillips is a member of the Savannah Composite Flying Tiger Squadron, GAWG, where he is the PAO



FL Squadron Members See Global Flyer up Close

1st Lt Sherwin Hamada, Commander, Timber Creek Composite Squadron, and friend, when he worked as a NASA contractor. Behind him is the Global Flyer



CAP Squadron works with Challenge Air, a not-for-profit organization

The organization offers motivational, inspirational, and life-changing experiences to physically challenged children and youth through aviation

Chief of Staff

By Lt Col Bill Brockman

Our Changing World

The only thing we can count on in our lives is change. We live in continuously changing times. Civil Air Patrol was born into a violently changing world torn by conflict. It took a special act of Congress to establish our organization. Volunteers performed some unique and vital missions for America. In spite of 64 years of changes, we are still a unique organization.



Change is not an easy thing for everyone. It scares some individuals, while it excites other individuals. Some see that there is something to lose, while others see that there are things to be gained. When we get caught up in our concerns about change, we forget to see those things that remain the same. We can forget what has kept us together. Our missions, the heart of what we do and what we stand for, stay the same.

The need for dedicated individuals to develop leadership skills in our cadet members continues. There is a need for CAP to serve families in our communities, but we are a family ourselves, in spite of our quasi-military structure. Many members first joined CAP as cadets, and have continued their affiliation as senior members. Some adults join CAP because they have a son or daughter in the program. Without the leadership training provided by CAP, or other similar programs, where will our young people learn the skills necessary to take the torch of leadership and service in the future? Today, more than ever the Cadet Program could not exist without all our support.

The need for our Emergency Services missions continues. CAP is still the largest, best trained, and most qualified group available to local communities in times of disaster, whether from hurricanes, tornados, or missing aircraft. Our radio network still provides needed communications during emergencies. As long as the need continues, it is vital we continue to train and be ready to respond.

The need for professional, volunteer pilots and aircrews continues for support of our counter drug mission. While we no longer hunt for enemy submarines along our coasts, we continue to support efforts to fight another type of enemy. So, the need continues for us to recruit and qualify pilots, to train support personnel, and to maintain the aircraft we use to serve the needs of our communities.

The need for education and understanding of aviation and the aerospace world continues. Aviation is a part of what makes CAP so unique. It is part of our mission. We can provide an important link for today's youth and for our communities.

While political winds may change, while the structure of CAP may change, the very heart of what we do, day by day, week by week, remains the same. If we reflect and remember why we chose to be a part of Civil Air Patrol, and if each of us does the job we agreed to do and have trained to do, we will be stronger and better tomorrow and for years to come. We can proudly march into the future with our heads held high knowing that we are serving our community, state, and Nation.

PRWG Cadets Participate in Special Activities Boards

By Capt Juan Toro

Cadets from all over the Puerto Rican island converged on Jan. 28 to participate in the Cadet Selection Board for the upcoming summer's National Cadet Special Activities. The PRWG Cadet Selection Board evaluates cadets for the NCSA on a possible 75 total-points basis in which uniforms, military bearing, courtesy, communication skills and general knowledge (leadership, current events and the special activity chosen by the cadet) are taken into considera-



C/LtCol José A. Rafols achieved a 96% on his evaluation along with C/MSgt David Rosado (not pictured).

tion by the interviewing and evaluation team members. The PRWG NCSA Selection Board teams are composed of wing staff members, USAF Reservists, USAF-CAP and PR Air National Guard members. This year, the evaluation benchmark of 96 percent, (72 points out of the possible 75) established in 2004, was broken by C/CMSgt Luis Betancourt from Dr. Cesareo Rosa Nieves Cadet Squadron PR-123. Cadet Chief Master Sgt Betancourt obtained a 97 percent, (73 points out of the possible 75) establishing a new benchmark for 2006.

Cadet Lt Col José A. Rafols from Aguadilla Cadet Squadron PR-035 and C/MSgt David Rosado from Muniz ANG Cadet Squadron PR-126 obtained a 96 percent on their respective evaluations.

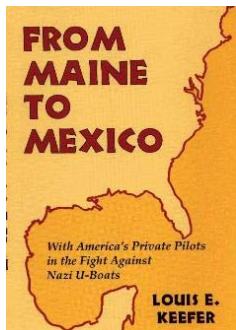
Capt Toro is a Cadet Programs Officer for Puerto Rico

Historical Collection at GAWG Conference

By Capt. James L. Shaw Jr.

The 2006 Georgia Wing Conference will take place the weekend of April 7-8 at Jeckyll Island, GA. You can get more information about it on the GAWG website.

This year I have been invited and am happy to announce that part of the Civil Air Patrol National Historic Collection will be available for viewing. The CAP National Curator Lt Col Bill Schell will be bringing the collection from Aberdeen, MD. This is a



huge and fantastic collection of all types of CAP history. There will also be private collections from myself and Lt Col Todd Engelman GAWG GP4.

There will be several hundreds of items on display from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday. I will also be debuting the Audio Version of *Flying Minute Men of the Air*, the 2006 CAP Christmas Ornament preliminary design, and distributing free graphics CDs.

One of the best books about our history *From Maine to Mexico* will be available for a donation to the CAP Historical Committee. I

would also like to invite you to bring your historical items for viewing and if you have anything to donate to the historical committee you may bring them.

I will also have a copy of a series called *Hero Next Door* by Kristin Gilpatrick. These are excellent books for anyone who has a love of country, history, and those who have served.

There will be door prizes and many more exciting historical presentations to see. I look forward to making history that weekend.

Capt Shaw is the CAP Assistant National Historian, Southeast Region Historian, and Commander GA805

Global Flyer Takes Off

Photos and story by 1st Lt Vic Cassella

Kennedy Space Center, Florida, February 8, 2006: It was a dark, cool, and brisk morning when this CAP Public Affairs Officer arrived at Kennedy Space Center's shuttle landing facility. There was also a flurry of activity going on under the bright spotlights and several support vehicles which surrounded the GlobalFlyer. Virgin Atlantic's support team members were wiping down the aircraft with chamois cloth to remove any excess moisture from the carbon fiber skin, and performing many other pre-flight tasks.



Steve Fossett boards the GlobalFlyer

The weather was just right with a cool temperature and a headwind which seemed to be right down the centerline of the runway... perfect conditions for take-off. Everyone was excited and there was a feeling that today was the day that this team

was going to launch this unusual looking aircraft for its record, attempting flight. The GlobalFlyer has a gross weight of 22,000 pounds of which 83% of its mass is fuel located in thirteen fuel tanks distributed in various parts of the fuselage. Several minutes after I arrived, the flight preparations, press briefings, photo opportunities and all goodbyes were com-

pleted. Then Steve Fossett stepped inside his tiny cockpit, which is only 7 feet long.

Steve Fossett flew solo, non-stop around the world following a strict set of rules laid down by the governing body of aviation record attempts, the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. The flight covered 26,389.3 miles in 76 hours and 45 minutes without refueling.

1st Lt Cassella, is a PAO, Patrick AFB Composite Squadron



GlobalFlyer departs Kennedy Space Center to attempt record-breaking flight

The Call No Alerting Officer Wants to Receive

By Maj Patricia Mitcham

It is bad enough receiving a call on a missing aircraft, but it is even worse when the pilot is a fellow CAP member.

This happened to the Alabama Wing on Jan. 28, 2006. Although we knew a little bit in advance that there was a possibility that an aircraft was missing, the Flight Service Station and Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) had no reported missing aircraft. The AFRCC didn't have an Emergency Locator Transmitter sound-

ing in the area. We placed some crews on standby to be ready to go as soon as we got the mission number. As soon as we found out an Alert Notice (ALNOT) had been issued, we called AFRCC who authorized a mission number for the Alabama Wing. Calls went out for the aircrews to go, but they had to be put on a weather hold because of storms in the search area. A call was made to both the Maxwell and Autauga-Elmore Composite Squadrons ground teams. Because the Ground team leader for Maxwell

was in route back to Montgomery from out of town, the ground team from AL123, Autauga-Elmore Composite Squadron, was sent to check two airports and then end up at Camden Airport. The next morning a second ground team from Maxwell Composite Squadron was in route along with a CAP aircraft assigned from Mobile Squadron when the call of the find came in. We had also called the National Operations Center (NOC) and requested the ARCHER aircraft from National Headquarters the night before.

A local pilot spotted the crash site first thing that morning. The Wilcox County Sheriff's Office and the AL 123 ground team headed to the site. They were met by a local game warden that told them that one person was alive. EMS was then called.

The Ground team called mission base and told us that Maj Fred Rux had survived the crash. EMS requested a medical helicopter to fly Maj Rux out. The ground team said EMS did an outstanding job making sure they got Maj Rux out without causing further injuries. Unfortunately the passenger did not survive the crash.

Maj Rux was flown to Pensacola, FL where he received medical treatment of his injuries.

Maj Mitcham is the ALWG Director of Public Affairs

Administration

By Lt Col Evelyn Holdren

Administrative Communications/Administrative Authorizations—CAPR 10-3

This regulation establishes procedures and formats for publishing administrative authorizations within Civil Air Patrol and identifies the sources of military authorizations.



Administrative authorizations are official, formally published documents that authorize specific services and actions. There are four types of authorizations.

The Transportation Authorization authenticates eligibility to travel on DOD aircraft and use of military facilities, services and military vehicle transportation in accordance with DOD directives, CAP-USAF and CAP programs. This Authorization must be approved by CAP-USAF liaison region personnel.

The Military Support Authorization authenticates CAP activity as an approved program and specifies type activity, date, location and military installation support in accordance with USAF

support that has been requested and approved. This authorization must be approved by CAP-USAF liaison region personnel.

The Personnel Authorization appoints individuals or groups to serve on boards and committees, and/or makes special assignments. The unit commander or a delegate appointed on a PA is responsible for approving the Personnel Authorization.

The Participation Letter is used to verify attendance and participation of CAP members in a CAP event or activity for personnel records. The unit commander or his delegate appointed on a PA is responsible for approving the Participation Letter.

The unit administrative officer prepares, reproduces and distributes administrative authorizations IAW this regulation. This task may be assigned to other senior member(s) provided the unit commander appoints a member(s) on a PA as an assistant administrative officer.

The regulation provides examples of the four Administrative Authorizations. When studying this regulation the examples should be read.

Lt Col Holdren is the Southeast Region Director of Administration

13 year-old Cadet flies on Bomber his Great Grandfather once flew

By Lt Jackie Zarrilli

First Lieutenant Adam Kubinciak served in WWII with the Eighth Air Force as a B24 bomber pilot. He flew 36 combat missions over Nazi Germany. This veteran pilot had an opportunity in 1992 to

capture this historic moment in photos. Cadet Mallon donned his class B uniform, SM Mallon wore a special shirt honoring her grandfather pilot, and Kubinciak was

decked out in a bright blue jacket with the Buckaroo Bungay symbol. Kubinciak and his B24 crewmembers of the Eighth Air Force were stationed at Bungay Base in England. Kubinciak, the oldest at 24, was nick named "Pappy" by all the Buckaroo Bungay crew.

Originally hailing from Long Island, New York, Kubinciak entered the service in January of 1941, started off in the National Guard then went into the Army Air Corp as an aviation cadet in 1942. He said he chose this path because he has always been fascinated by flying but could never afford it. In 1943 he earned his wings at age 24, and flew the B24 Liberators in Europe.

The flying bug runs in the family and that is the main reason why 13 year-old, Omni Middle School 7th grader, Joseph Mallon joined Civil Air Patrol. "CAP has a terrific aerospace program and I have already flown four of their Orientation Flights!" replied the enthusiastic Cadet

Airman. Cadet Mallon and his mother, Donna, are members of Boca Raton Composite Squadron.

1st Lt Zarrilli is the FLWG PAO



(Kneeling Center) 1st Lt Adam Kubinciak with B24 crewmembers of the Eighth Air Force stationed at Bungay Base in England. Lt. Kubinciak, the oldest at 24, was nick-named "Pappy" by all the Buckaroo Bungay crew

fly one more time in the same type of bomber that the Colling's Foundation had restored as part of their flying history museum. Now Adam Kubinciak had the unique opportunity to fly with his granddaughter and great grandson, Civil Air Patrol Senior Member Donna Mallon and C/Amn Joseph M. Mallon. They were all thrilled to take a once-in-a-lifetime ride together on the B24 Bomber.



C/Amn Joseph Mallon

"It's just like the one I flew 60 years ago over Germany," says the 88 year-old WWII veteran. Family members gathered in the early morning at Boca Raton Airport to



Great grandfather Adam Kubinciak stands in front of B24 with 18month old great grandson, Joseph Mallon, in his arms



Cadet Airman Joseph Mallon looks out from B24 WWII bomber his great grandfather once flew



Lt Adam Kubinciak shows his great grandson, C/Amn Joseph Mallon his name on the outside of the B24 bomber they are about to fly on

ALWG Conducts Field Training

Alabama's Maxwell Composite Squadron AL-032 passed a milestone in its Field Training Cycle 3-5 February. Over the six-month program, cadets and senior members, working through ground team member training, and team leader tasks for more experienced members, began interacting with teams outside the activity when they learned air-to-ground and ground-to-air communications.

Alabama Wing Legal Officer, Capt Joe Saloom, was aloft over the training site to give Squadron 32's new commander, Lt Col John Chilstrom, a bird's eye view of the capabilities his unit is developing.

Major Michael Long, the FTX activity director, was also on board and provided this parting photograph below.

Maj Long has been involved in the FTX since it was created in 1997 and became the director in 2002. His staff is drawn from graduates and staff members of the National Ground Search and Rescue School at NESAS, where he was the commandant in 2003 and 2004, and from graduates of the FTX program.



Moral Leadership

By Maj David Crockwell

For the first time, the Southeast Region will offer a MLO Staff College to run concurrently with the Chaplain Staff College at the same location. This way we can always train together on the Core Courses.



We will be training new members to become MLOs as well as training current MLOs to advance through the program.

During the course, attendees will learn how to assist and support CAP chaplains and squadron commanders by providing moral and ethical instruction to cadets, by assisting chaplains with worship, and by supporting chaplains during emergency services missions.

Classes will show how to complete all the training requirements so that after six months have been completed and MLO certification is earned, the MLO Tech Specialty Badge can be worn.

For those who are already MLOs, classes are available to advance to Senior level and Master level ratings.

MLOs will train alongside the chaplains and then break out into specialized MLO courses according to level.

Also at the course will be Critical Incident Stress Management

(CISM) training. CISM is inclusive of programs and intervention strategies designed to prevent stress effects as well as manage the recovery from significant experiential stressors. It includes pre-incident education, demobilizations, defusing, debriefings (Critical Incident Stress Debriefing), on-scene support services, Crisis Management Briefings, follow up services, professional referrals, crisis intervention training (with continuing education), individual and pastoral crisis intervention and family support programs.

This course meets the National requirement for CISM certification. Those passing this course would get two Certificates at graduation; one from the Chaplain Staff College and one from the ICISMF (International CISM Foundation).

For more information, contact me at: dcrockwell@comcast.net.



Notice Notice Notice
the **Southeast Region**
Conference
Previously scheduled for
June 23-25
in
Jacksonville, FL
Has been cancelled. Keep
checking the Region ReCAP and
the SER website for a new date
and location to be announced.

Mitchell Awarded

Georgia Wing Commander Col Don Greene presented the Billy Mitchell award to C/2nd Lt Kyle J. Armstrong from the Moody AFB Composite Squadron-082. The certificate was presented at the Awards Banquet held after the Georgia Wing Cadet Competition held in Athens, GA on Feb. 25-26th, 2006.



Ormond Beach Hosts Fly Day

By 1st Lt Corey S. Halaychik

On Feb. 11, Civil Air Patrol Cadets from Florida Wing Groups 9 and 800 participated in a Fly Day hosted by the Ormond Beach Senior Squadron. Even in the face of uncooperative weather and minor setbacks, 20 cadets representing three squadrons received orientation rides, including three first flights for C/AB Fatima Canaan, C/AB Jonathan Duran and C/AB Ryan O'Neil.

Group 9 Commander Maj Van



Lt Col Joe Wisniewski, Squadron Commander, makes sure cadets are safely buckled in for their orientation flight

Vredenburg presented awards to those first flight cadets and stated, "Despite Mother Nature's meteorological fury, I am proud to see senior members and cadets from across Group 9 pull together to accept and support last minute changes and unexpected occurrences to the day's

events. Leadership by example and professionalism are the attributes making today the success that it is."

While flying was certainly the main part, cadets also engaged in a variety of aerospace related activities. These included question and answer sessions on aircraft part identification, the principles of flight and an explanation of air traffic control operations. Cadets also learned how to read and use aeronautical charts and received a tour of the Ormond Beach Senior Squadron's communication room.

This Fly Day proved to be a fun, exciting and educating event, encompassing two of Civil Air Patrol's missions: cadet programs and aerospace education. Plans for future Fly Days are already in the works, with ideas for a bigger, better event for all who attend.

1st Lt Halaychik is a Public Affairs Officer, for Group 9, FLWG

Memoriam to Mike Schroeder

By Lt Col Charlie Clement

My first encounter with Mike Schroeder was at a flight clinic in 1995 in which he was the instructor covering Class B airspace. I got to meet him in the flying portion that afternoon and immediately liked the guy with his laid-back attitude and quick wit. During the 1996 Olympics, Mike worked with us training pilots and observers in the use of video equipment and flew missions when he wasn't working.

Mike became involved with the Counter Drug program at GAWG after successfully completing the required training and was one of the first twin engine pilots used in the radar evaluation missions as well as the Air Defense missions which were both in their infancy. He flew on four missions to Puerto Rico; two RAIDS missions, one to certify form 5 CD pilots and the last mission was to demonstrate

the equipment and CAP's capability to several law enforcement entities, both local and federal.

On one of these mission, we flew to the location, videoed the target and sent the images back. Interestingly, the frequency that we used to transmit the signal was the same used by the fire alarm system. So the first time we began transmitting... naturally while I was presenting... the fire alarm went off and all were evacuated from the building. When it happened on the second transmission, we realized that the transmitter was the cause. Mike quipped, "Charlie, I think we should not use the transmitter, or we are going to have to get a lot of sun tan lotion for the group."

During one trip to assist the CD pilots on the video equipment and form 5s, Mike participated in two evening missions with their sundown patrol and one combined

mission with US Customs.

Mike assisted me in the GA Wing's ROTC flight program for two years flying every weekend for most of those years for both the University of GA AF-Cadets and GA Tech AF-Cadets. Mike later took charge of the program after I moved to SER CD and he added Valdosta State as the third University covered by the GAWG.

In GA, we had worked with the Governor's Task Force, administered by DEA. Mike was always one you could count on for assisting in the Wing Flights, instructing younger pilots, acting as a Wing Flight Instructor and Mission Flight Instructor.

Mike Schroeder was always there to support the numerous Wing SAR exercises. He was a distinguished, professional pilot. He is sorely missed.

Lt Col Clement is a past Asstant SER Counter Drug Director

Operations

By Lt Col David E. Lehtonen

Last month we discussed the characteristics and definition of the rogue aviator as described in the book entitled *Darker*



Shades of Blue – the Rogue Pilot, by Tony Kern, a USAF pilot. The six characteristics that Kern identified are that rogues are socially adept, they are often untruthful, and feel that they are trapped in a system designed for “lesser people.” Also, the rogue is often driven by motivations of his own, the rogue can be extremely difficult to deal with, and they often show signs of progressive deviations from established rules and procedures. They are, after all, an undisciplined lot who place their own egos above everything else and in so doing, place the lives of people they fly with in jeopardy. This month we will look at the fatal crash of Czar 52, a B-52 aircraft.

Lt Col Hammond was the wing stan/eval officer and an instructor pilot with over 5,200 flight hours and was the pilot and aircraft commander for the B-52 exhibition at a Fairchild AFB Air Show on May 19, 1991, where he violated several regulations and flight manual limits, exceeded bank and pitch limits, and by flying directly over the air show crowd, violated the FAR. The entire wing staff witnessed the exhibition yet there is no evidence that any disciplinary action was taken. The next situation was a flyover, two months after the first exhibition flight. Here, Hammond accomplished passes well below 100 feet using steep bank turns and high pitch angles and completed his air show with a wingover! The aging B-52 fleet in 1991 was limited to 30 degrees

of bank and 15 degrees of pitch in the traffic pattern area, and further, required USAF clearances and approval by the vice chief of staff for a fly-over. No such approval was requested or granted. Because of numerous complaints from the crowd, leadership had to take “action,” but only did so verbally. These antics were repeated on May 17, 1992 where Lt Col Hammond’s exhibition included several low-altitude steep turns exceeding 45 degrees of bank and a high-speed pass followed by an estimated 60 degree nose high climb, culminating in a wingover maneuver. This time, the maneuvers were more dramatic and were witnessed by a new set of wing leaders who again, took no action.

In the two years that followed there were at least three more very notable incidents that proved Hammond’s rogue personality. In each of these situations, he was merely given a verbal reprimand. On one mission, he purposefully cleared a ridge-line by only 15 feet. Two crewmembers who were with him verbally reprimanded him about this and he laughed in their faces. A crewmember complained to the Ops officer, who then took the matter to the squadron commander, Lt Col Mark McCloud. McCloud brought the incident up to Col Pollard, deputy commander of operations, with a recommendation to ground Hammond. All that came of this was a verbal reprimand and Hammond promised to not break any regulations in the future. Lt Col McCloud decided to not let anyone fly with Hammond unless he was with him in the aircraft. By the failure of the DO to act on the grounding recommendation, the stage was set for the fatal flight of Czar 52.

During two practice missions on June 17, 1994 for yet another

Base Air Show, the pre-brief emphasized bank angles no greater than 45 degrees and pitch over 25 degrees. The final practice mission was conducted on June 24, 1994. Upon returning to land after the flight profile was completed, the control tower directed Czar 52 to execute a go-around because of another aircraft on the runway. At mid-field, the low and slow B-52 aircraft began a tight 360 degree left turn around the control tower with full flaps at only 250 feet AGL. Approximately three-quarters around the turn, the B-52 banked past 90 degrees, stalled, clipped a power line with the left wing, and crashed. There were no survivors in the crew of four field-grade officers. Among those killed were pilot Lt Col Hammond, co-pilot Lt Col McCloud, Lt Col Ken Wilson, Navigator, and as safety observer, Col Robert Moulton, wing vice commander on his “finis-flight,” an Air Force tradition where an aviator is hosed down following his last flight. His wife and friends, waiting on the ramp with champagne to congratulate him, witnessed the crash.

What can we learn from this? In Hammond’s case, he exhibited all of the characteristics of the rogue pilot including, and perhaps most important, progressive deviations from regulations. The unwillingness of his supervisors to take disciplinary action when there was ample evidence of these deviations was certainly a contributing factor to this unnecessary and tragic crash. For those of us who fly in CAP, the message is clear. Identify and weed out those pilots who exhibit deviant behavior and exclude them from flying our aircraft. Rogue behavior cannot be tolerated in today’s world.

David E. Lehtonen is the SER Director of Operations

Fatal Vision Hot Seat

By Lt Col Alvin Bedgood

One of the exhibits at the recent Group 8 banquet was a Drug Demand Reduction Program demonstration using the Fatal Vision Goggles to demonstrate the effects of intoxication on motor skills. Cadets, Senior Members and guests all had the opportunity to try their luck while driving video games and picking up small objects while wearing the Fatal Vision Goggles.

Fatal Vision Goggles simulate the visual impairment caused by alcohol or other drugs. Viewing

through the goggles is rather clear, but confusing to the mind. The wearer experiences a loss of equilibrium, which is one of the effects of intoxication. The goggles come in several types and can simulate the effects ranging from slight impairment to heavy intoxication in conditions ranging from daylight to nighttime.

All present had the opportunity to discover first hand, in a safe (and at times amusing) environment, the dangers and risks associated with attempt-

ing to drive under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

Lt Col Bedgood is a Special Advisor, FLWG



WWII POW, US Army rifleman, Sy Lichtenfeld Brought CAP Members to their feet at Banquet

By 1Lt Jackie Zarrilli

At the Combined Banquet for FLWG Groups 9 and 11, Feb. 3, 2006, members and guests enjoyed keynote speaker, Sy Lichtenfeld's moving story of his WWII experiences. Sy Lichtenfeld was 18 years old when he joined the US Army, trained as a rifleman and served in the airborne combat infantry unit in Europe. The audience was moved to tears as he described being captured during the Battle of the Bulge and the incredible hardships he and his fellow prisoners endured.

Pompano Cadet Squadron C/CMSgt Jennifer Jay, who had the honor of introducing him, said, "This man's strength of character and perseverance is an inspiration to us all. I will always remember his story when things get tough for me."



**WWII Veteran
Sy Lichtenfeld**

Cadets and senior members from Palm Beach and Broward County squadrons came together for fellowship and recognition of members' accomplishments. The event organizer, Lantana Cadet Squadron's Commander, Lt Col Robert Masiker told the crowd he liked to do things a bit differently as there was no head table and distinguished visitors and CAP command staff sat among the rank and file. He and his dedicated workers put out a feast complete with elegantly set tables garnished with flower centerpieces.

US Army Retired Brigadier General Albin Irzyk commented on the sharp presentation of the Colors by Coral Spring Cadet Squadron's Color Guard, C/SMSgt Ross Kaplan, C/2nd Lt Troy Odierno, C/CMSgt Alex Sage, and C/TSgt David Marty. The general was thrilled to spend the evening with "such dedicated patriotic people" and absolutely delighted to be able to

present Lantana Cadet Squadron's C/Capt Christina Johnson with her Earhart Award. Florida Wing Commander Col Dan Levitch was honored to give two fine young men their Mitchell Awards: Coral Spring Cadet Squadron's C/2nd Lt Troy Odierno and Pompano Cadet Squadron's C/2nd Lt Curtis Hightower.



Proud Parents watch their son C/2nd Lt Hightower receive his Mitchell Award from Col Dan Levitch and Pompano Squadron Commander Maj Peter Acevedo

The evening was full of applause in tribute to colleagues' contributions to their communities and CAP. Captain Craig Winkelmann received numerous acknowledgements of his outstanding management of Cadet Orientation Flights. Captain Susan D'Aries, upon receipt of her plaque for excellence in Emergency Services Training, spoke for all when she said that she got much more than she gave out of being a part of CAP.

TN WG Holds Planning Session

Col Jim Rushing, TNWG Commander, organized a planning weekend session including key wing staff personnel and the Group Commanders the weekend of Jan. 28-29, 2006 at Arnold in Tullahoma. Work sessions were held all day Saturday and Sunday, January 27-28. The sessions were held at the Gossick Leadership Training Center on AFB.

The purpose of the planning session was to set strategic direction for the wing during the next 12 to 18 months. The major goal was to develop a master calendar and a plan for ES training, Senior training, subordinate unit inspections, safety and strategy for recruiting and retention, and unit development. It was an intense weekend with a lot of work. Everyone agreed that the Wing is in a much better position to move forward and grow after completing this process. Sessions began promptly at 8 a.m. on Saturday and at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday. Major discussion topics

were enthusiastically debated and explored resulting in a number of important initiatives to be pursued in 2006 and beyond. Key points identified for action (generally in order of importance):

- Identify and train more incident commanders.

- Enlist everyone in correcting contact information and improving communications.

- Make a concerted effort to get cadets in the air in FY 2006.

- Train in use of and expand availability of QuickBooks for financial records.

- Unit inspections will be scheduled in FY 2006 and 2007. Emphasis is likely to be on flight safety, pilot records, financial records and training.

- Composite squadrons must be more diligent in use of form 31s to prevent disappointment when the electronic form is not sent properly.

- The Wing and Groups will focus on the 11 Homeland Security Dis-

GAWG Middle School Squadron Celebrates

Valdosta Middle School Cadet Squadron had a great Awards Banquet on January 21. Organizers thanked all the cadets and parents who helped make the night a success attended by over 60 people. Dinner speaker, City Councilman John Eunice, shared and Mrs. Terri Wesemann catered. The anniversary night was one not to be forgotten.



John Eunice

tricts, and 95 county contacts for future support.

Wing, in cooperation with units, will leverage imaging capability to improve our positioning for future missions. An example is to take baseline images for future comparison.

Shipment Sent—DMSP

To assist efforts to rebuild schools in Afghanistan, Chaplain Lt Col Dewey Painter and his team at Mission Harvest America and the Deployed Military Service Project (DMSP) released a shipment to Capt Roderick McLeod, US Army on Feb. 21. The leased freight container will take 30 days to arrive, stuffed with approximately 30,000 to 40,000 pounds of materials.

The success of this project is due to the combined efforts of many

members of the Southeast Region Command, CAP, the Florida Wing CAP, Group 2 Florida Wing, Veterans Service Division City of Jacksonville, Congressional and Senator offices, various Florida Guard and Reserve Units, the Georgia State Defense Force, Group 6 Florida Wing, CSX, First Coast News, Mission Harvest America and many others.

Congressman Ander Crenshaw, Senator Bob Martinez, and Senator Bill Nelson have all been an encouragement for this



Chaplain Painter looks over the shipment



Senator Bill Nelson and Chaplain Painter discuss the DMSP

project.

Mission Harvest America continues to raise funds for the remaining \$4000 shortage for shipping costs.

Will Ferguson Solos

By Lt Col Paul Blystone and
1st Lt Kate Ferguson

When flight instructor Capt Carol Ann Garratt stepped out of the Cessna 152 on Feb. 1, 2006, she was confident that her student was ready to take off on his own. As she, Lt Col Paul Blystone, and 1st Lt Kathryn Ferguson looked on, C/SMSGT Will Ferguson didn't disappoint them. He made three solo touch-and-gos in the pattern at Ocala International Airport's Jim Taylor Field and greased the landings all three times.

Needless to say, Capt Garratt was proud, and Will was all smiles when he shut down the engine and stepped out of the plane. Capt Garratt had the honor of performing the ceremonial shirt cutting, and the back of his shirt now hangs on the wall at Ocala Aviation Services, alongside those of many other cadets who have soloed before him. Will plans to continue flying in pursuit of his private pilot's license.

Will is a junior in high school and is the son of the late Dr. William Ferguson and Kathryn Ferguson. In Boy Scouts, he has earned the rank of Eagle Scout with seven palms and is a past chapter chief of the Order of the Arrow, scouting's national honor society. He has studied martial arts for ten years and holds a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do and a blue belt in Kung Fu. He recently became a licensed amateur radio operator. After college, Will plans to become a geneticist.

Wherever life takes him, though, Will won't ever forget Feb. 1, 2006, and the people of the Civil Air Patrol who made it possible for him to achieve his dream. He is grateful to the squadron's pilots, who have taken him on Orides (orientation rides) and given

him a chance to experience the joy of flight. He is grateful to the entire squadron for the scholarship which has helped defray a portion

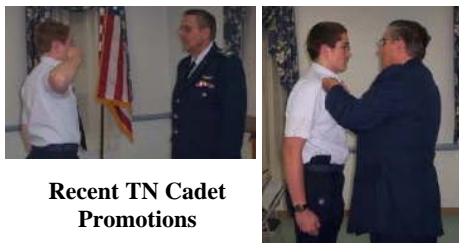


Flight instruction Capt Carol Ann Garratt with proud "soloist" Cadet SMSgt Will Ferguson, Ocala, FL, Marion County Composite Squadron

of the expenses of the solo program.

He is most grateful, however, to Capt Carol Ann Garratt, who is one of only a handful of women pilots who have flown solo around the world, and who donates countless hours in volunteer service to CAP and other worthwhile charities. The selflessness of these men and women is both an inspiration and a challenge to the next generation of Civil Air Patrol volunteers.

Lt Col Blystone and Lt Ferguson are from the Marion County Composite Squadron



Recent TN Cadet Promotions

Cadet David Slaney is promoted to C/AIC (above left) and Nathan Chubbuck is promoted to C/TSgt

Public Affairs

By 1st Lt Kelly Green Sharkey

Do you ever wonder what purpose public affairs serves? Cynics say it is a molding of public opinion that is skewed in a particular direction. I'd rather think of it as "accentuating the positive" with accurate information, given in a timely manner, that produces an understanding of the events, objectives, and operations of a group (or person)... in our case, Civil Air Patrol.



Over the past month I've had the opportunity to see rather innovative methods used by CAP personnel to accentuate the positive in "their neck of the woods."

For one example, the Maryland Wing hosts a Podcast entitled "Civil Air Patrol Today." The 30 minute segments showcase the missions, activities, and opportunities for CAP members in their Wing. (See www.thepodlounge.com.au/listfeed.php?feed=2576)

There are a lot of other great ideas out there, and are limited only by imagination. Our region has a lot of interesting events going on and amazing volunteers doing the work. With the help of squadron commanders, unit and wing PAOs and individual members, we can get the word out about all that is happening in the great Southeast.

Let's work together as a team to promote the events, objectives, and operations of the Southeast. And share the good news with your community leaders and fellow members. This newsletter is produced in a mirror-image format that can easily be mailed.

Who needs to see the good stuff going on? Get the word out!

1st Lt Sharkey is the Southeast Region Director of Public Affairs

SER Organizational Chart

